for 1996-98 by taking into account the following:

(i) to cover all urban locations with a population of 10,000 and above by including potential of adjoining villages falling within the radius of 15 Kms.

(ii) All urban locations having population of 5000 and above should be surveyed for setting up a distributorship and the viability to be ascertained by taking into account the potential of adjoining villages falling within 15 Kms. radius.

(iii) Cluster of villages within 15 Kms. radius of nucleus villages having a population of 10,000 (ten thousand) and above, to be surveyed for setting up rural distributorships and included in the plan depending upon the viability.

(iv) Villages within 15 Kms radius around towns having population of 1 lakh and above to be surveyed for opening of rural distributorships. While identifying rural locations contiguous to these towns, it should be ensured that adequate number of LPG distributorships exist in such towns so as to avoid marketing of LPG by rural distributorships in urban areas.

Hanglu Skins recovered in Srinagar

*158. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken against the owner of the processing unit at Nishat in Srinagar district from where about 17000 Hanglu skins were recovered recently;

(b) who is the owner of the unit; and

(c) in what manner Government are going to deal with the whole case?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) The Department of Wildlife Protection, Jammu & Kashmir Government have reported that no such skins have been recovered from the processing unit at Nishat in Srinagar District.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Issue of Letter of intent

*159. SHRI NAGMANI:
SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names and particulars of the parties to whom letters of intent have been issued by the Ministry/Oil Selection Board in Delhi during the year 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997;

(b) the details of those who have been permitted to operate dealership from private premises arranged by them; and

(c) how many out of them have commenced their dealership indicating the name of the firms and the premises from which they are operating?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Letters of Intent for allotment of dealerships/distributorships are not issued by the Government. This is done by the concerned oil companies. Oil marketing companies are reported to have issued Letters of Intent for 96 petrol/diesel retail outlets and 43 LPG distributorships in Delhi during 1994 to 1997.

(b) and (c) Out of the above, 8 retail outlet dealerships and 20 LPG distributorships have been commissioned. Whereas all the retail outlets are reported to have been commissioned on the land allotted by the Delhi Development Authority, 10 LPG distributorships have been commissioned on private land as under:

1. M/s Kaushik Gas Agency, Rohtak Road.
2. M/s Raghav Gas Service, Ashok Nagar.
3. M/s Bhagirathi Gas Service, Nehru Vihar.
4. M/s Nangloi Gas Service, Adhyapak Nagar.
5. M/s Jahangirpuri Gas Service, Jahangirpuri.

6. M/s Avon Gas Service, Najafgarh.
7. M/s Goodwill Gas Service, Krishan Nagar
8. M/s Dagar Gas Service, Rohini
9. M/s Gayatri Gas Service, Subhash Nagar, Ghonda
10. M/s Parul Gas Service, Burari.

Long Term Management Plans Cor Kaziranga and Manas National Parks

*160. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the long term management plan of the Kaziranga and Manas National Parks in Assam;

(b) the assistance given by the World Wide Fund for Nature for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Kaziranga and Manas National Parks in Assam do not have long-term management plans. Their management is being guided by annual action plans and the financial support required is also being assessed on annual basis.

(c) The World Wide Fund for Nature has so far committed Rs. 4.30 lakhs for Kaziranga and Rs. 2.10 lakhs for Manas National Parks.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

New Agricultural Policy

1086. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated new agricultural policy to ascertain faster growth in agriculture and animal husbandry sections in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details of the new policy approach to sluggish agricultural growth in Bihar and an estimate of financial requirement during Ninth Plan period for achievement of the targeted growth in agriculture and animal husbandry sector;

(c) whether Government have identified the missing linkages and factors responsible for sluggish growth in agriculture and allied sectors in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to be taken for effective implementation of new agricultural policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Government of India have formulated a draft Agriculture Policy Resolution to ascertain faster growth in agriculture and animal husbandry sectors in the country including Bihar. Formulation of State Agriculture Policy concerns the respective State Governments. The outlays for agriculture and the physical targets for the 9th plan for Bihar State have not been finalised.

(c) and (d) the major factor responsible for sluggish growth in Agriculture and allied Sectors, inter-alia, are poor irrigation facilities, low input of fertilisers, uneconomic size of holding, low level of infrastructural development, inadequate flow of institutional finance, etc.

These will be suitably addressed in the Ninth Plan.

Central Assistance for Agricultural Production in Bihar

1087. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with a view to augment agricultural production, Central assistance is being provided to the farmers of Bihar for acquiring agricultural implements and machines under various crop specific programmes;

(b) if so, the details therof; and

(c) the other measures being taken by Government for augmenting agricultural production in the State?